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TAGS: [PREL](#) [PHUM](#) [RW](#)
SUBJECT: RWANDA ON BELARUS CANDIDACY FOR UNHRC

REF: A. STATE 063345
[1](#)B. STATE 058054

Classified By: Ambassador Michael R. Arietti, reason 1.4 (B/D)

(C) Per reftel instructions, Ambassador and British Ambassador Jeremy Macadie presented the Belarus demarche to Minister of State at the Foreign Ministry Rosemary Museminali on May 10 (embassy had previously communicated talking points at lower levels). Ambassador encouraged a vote for Slovenia and Bosnia; Macadie pressed for an abstention to prevent Belarus from getting the necessary 97 votes. Museminali listened carefully to the joint presentation, noting that the GOR had not yet "made up its mind." However, she agreed that countries joining the Human Rights Council should be firm supporters of international human rights standards and should apply these standards at home. It is our sense that Rwanda will listen to our appeals not to support Belarus. We encourage further approaches to their representatives in New York.

ARIETTI